

# GREENBELT COOPERATOR



AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Published Every Thursday By The Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc., 14 Parkway, Greenbelt, Maryland

Vol. 15, No. 47

Greenbelt, Maryland, Thursday, July 12, 1951

Five cents

## Theater Stage Revives With Footlight Club

Backstage at the Greenbelt Theater has become a beehive of activity. A slow but sure process of regeneration of the long-neglected stage is being brought about by an unusual collection of talented little folk. Unlike the make-believe "little folk" who are never really seen, these little folk are actually seen... but mostly by other little folk.

For down at the theater there is a scheme under way to bring alive the fun and fascination of stagecraft and grease paint. These youngsters come out and are visible once a week, but very few adults ever get to see them, because they only show up for the Saturday matinee.



It all started about four weeks ago when Mike Loftus asked from the stage during one of the Saturday birthday parties for any talented youngsters to get in touch with him if they were

interested in forming a Footlight Club. Lo and behold, on the following Saturday there was a chorus line of six accomplished tap dancers, also a darling singer five years old. The next Saturday there were pantomimists and an excellent dance duo. Last Saturday some older hands showed up to get into the act, and provided a real "production number" in Western setting.

The change is not only onstage but backstage as well. For stagehands are fretting with problems of lighting, scenery design and building, and getting faltering curtains to close smoothly.

Ronda Bibler and Ann Walker have been mainstays in gathering some of the talent from the younger set, while most stage details are worked out by Dick Lawson of nearby Hollywood and Ralph Townsend.

"The Footlight Club is a natural," says Loftus. "An unusually big stage for a movie house like this is going to waste. We have many talented people in our community and neighboring towns. Why let them fade away like 'old soldiers'?" The kids who come on Saturdays have liked the surprise of seeing their friends go through routines of entertainment. Some of this talent has appeared on television; some of it will get valuable experience from performing before these audiences. Therefore I say—Look out, we're going to have more star hams around here than Armour."

## KanDu Club Plans Ice Cream Social

The KanDu Club will sponsor free movies and an Ice Cream Social on Community Church lawn this Saturday evening beginning at about 7:30. The movies (free) will be shown in the church basement. Movies will include cartoons for children and the color film "America, the Beautiful". All travellers and sportsmen should see this picture which shows the best fishing streams and scenic spots for vacation in America.

Among those serving on the committees are Robert J. Leo, Lloyd MacEwen and Stanley Edwards. Tables will be decorated and lighted by Japanese lanterns. Oldsters may sit and visit over cake and ice cream while youngsters enjoy the movies. Everyone is invited.

## Fire Depts. Tie In Donkey Ball Benefit

By E. DonBullian

Last Sunday night Braden Field was the scene of one of the most unusual baseball games ever staged in Greenbelt—a "Donkey Baseball" game between the Berwyn Fire Department and the Greenbelt Fire Dept.-Rescue Squad teams. The affair was to raise funds for little Maureen McTiernan. Over 500 people attended the game and \$111. went into the Maureen Fund.

For those who have never seen a "Donkey Baseball" game it is played, as the name implies, on donkeys. Every player except the pitcher and catcher must have a donkey. The batter, after hitting the ball, must ride a donkey around the bases. Fielders are required to take their donkeys with them in fielding the ball. Infidlers must remount their "steeds" before throwing the ball. Bases are approximately 10 feet square. This is a general outline of the rules of the game.

The donkey element in the game, however, is one feature that cannot be reduced to rules and regulations. It seems that every donkey has a personality all his own. There were two donkeys available for base running(?); one of these insisted that every batter slide into first base on his face. This he accomplished by kicking as high as he could with his hind legs every time he approached first base, that is, if the stalwart on his back was still there. Some of the boys developed a new necking technique in their fruitless efforts to stay on the donkey's back.

Some of the donkeys didn't seem to feel like playing ball and no amount of coaxing or rein-pulling could induce them to get into the spirit of the game. The players tried everything but picking them up bodily. It was a most interesting and entertaining affair from both the contestants' and spectators' point of view. Oh yes! the game ended in a tie, with both teams scoring two runs. How that was done is a mystery; however, some of the players may have a way with donkeys.



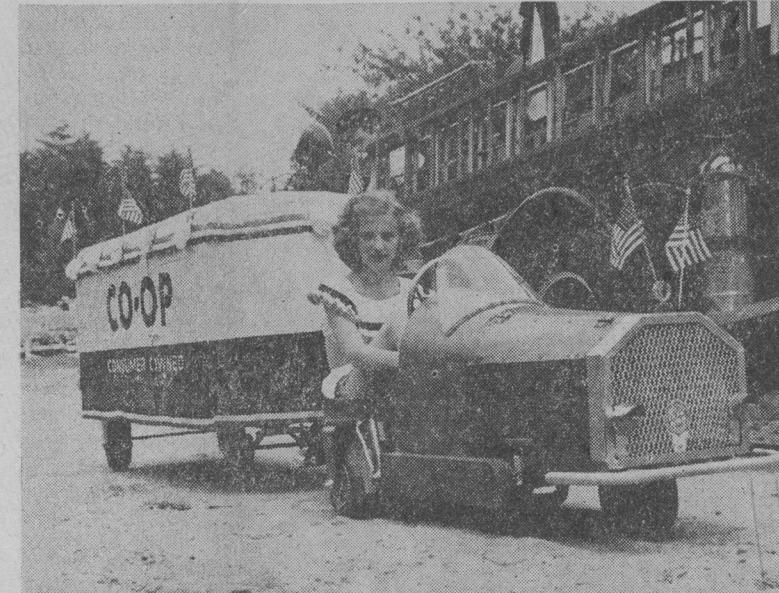
Cleo F. Craig, a veteran of 38 years of service in the Bell Telephone System, has been elected president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company to succeed Leroy A. Wilson, who died June 28, 1951.

A native of Missouri, Craig has had wide experience in the telephone industry since he went to work for A. T. & T. in 1913 as an equipment man. At various times he has been in charge of the Long Lines Department, personnel relations, operations and engineering, revenue requirements and finance.

## Daily Vacation Bible School

Community Church is again sponsoring two weeks of Bible School for children this summer. The school, which runs from 9:30 to 11:30 each morning, began last Monday. Children may still register, beginning at age six, by special arrangement with the directors, Mrs. John Elder or Mrs. Frank Galvin.

## Co-op Float is Custom-Built Job



Dottie Wharton driving auto in the Fourth of July Parade. Trailer and auto designed and built by her father, Harvey Wharton, maintenance man of Greenbelt Consumers Services.

## Co-op Electrician Builds Auto Trailer

By Doris A. Mednick

Famous for his ingenuity with soldering iron and acetylene torch, Harvey Wharton, 1-F Westway Road, spent 150 hours designing and completing the replica of the Greenbelt Consumer Services trailer and auto which was featured in the July Fourth parade. He started working on it in April and devoted every evening for two months to its completion. The trailer with the Co-op name on it was built during the last two weeks prior to the parade. Wharton originally planned the auto as an amusement for his two daughters, Dottie, age 13 and Peggy, age 10. Dottie was the pretty driver in the Greenbelt parade, and Peggy took over the steering wheel in the Takoma Park parade.

The three-wheel car steers by the front single wheel, pulls by both rear wheels, and has a differential and transmission. The engine is air-cooled, 1 1/2 H.P. and made of parts picked up by Wharton in bicycle shops, lawn-mower and washing-machine repair shops. Those parts that he couldn't adapt to his needs, he made to his own specifications. The automobile boasts a hand brake, foot clutch, siren, and reverse. It will attain a top speed of 12 miles and will run about 68 miles to the gallon, although Wharton says that has not yet been accurately determined. The automobile weighs 175 pounds and Wharton says a child of five can operate it, although he is not accepting any orders on them.

The trailer body is electric-welded. First, Wharton constructed a steel frame and bent the masonry body around it. Then the galvanized steel top was welded on.

Wharton, who maintains all the electrical and mechanical equipment of the co-op enterprises in Greenbelt, has lived here since 1938. He was first employed by PHA as chief electrician and served in that capacity for 8 years before joining the staff of GCS.

## Bonham to Fill Council Vacancy; No Help Coming on Bus, Rent Raise

The city council elected Robert Bonham, 46-J Ridge, to the council at its regular meeting last Monday night. Only one ballot was taken after a list of ten nominees were presented for consideration. The list of names used were those printed in a Cooperator story on June 7, and none were added by members of council. The first ballot resulted in three votes for Bonham and one for Goldfaden.

In another election, Thomas Canning was elected mayor pro-tem. Several ballots were needed to determine a choice between Canning, James Wolfe and Steve Comings.

### No PHA Help On Bus

The council heard a letter from Roy M. Little, acting assistant commissioner of the Public Housing Administration, which stated that PHA would not "participate" in any subsidy for the Greenbelt bus. PHA advised the city that any money spent for the bus system would be deducted from next year's budget. Admitting that there would be reason for helping a transportation system if it "would affect the rentability of our properties", Little maintained that the "need is not serious from an overall standpoint since the revenues of two private transportation companies... were not sufficient to enable them to operate in the black." He recommended a special general tax assessment specifically levied for the purpose of providing a bus system.

The council voted to acknowledge the receipt of the letter but not to pursue it any further at this time. Meanwhile, \$1800 was appropriated for licenses and insurance for the two buses now in operation. City Manager McDonald reported that the bus is now carrying 200 passengers a day. Although this is not sufficient for a profitable operation, McDonald stated, it is anticipated that the opening of school in September will increase the bus patronage by the addition of junior high school students. It was disclosed that junior high students will have no school bus this year. McDonald stated that 375 passengers a day are needed to make the bus break even.

### Rent Responses

Letters from Senators Butler, Douglas, and O'Conor were read to council in reply to the rent protest resolution sent them by council last month. Butler and O'Conor, both of Maryland, sent acknowledgements of the letter, but only Douglas of Illinois offered any assistance. Councilman Canning, angered at the replies, suggested that a letter be sent to Butler and O'Conor demanding "what, if anything, they intend to do about it?" Canning stated, "This is a matter of vital concern to a group of citizens in this state... it's up to them to do something about it." He felt it was ludicrous for a representative of a "foreign state" to be more considerate of the city's welfare.

Sam Fox, recreation director, was commended for his work on the Little League Baseball program, and the Department of Public Safety commended for its work on traffic control on July 4. It was disclosed that the American Automobile Association will present a plaque to the city of Greenbelt at Mrs. K's Tollhouse Inn in honor of going one year without a traffic fatality. A similar plaque is forthcoming from the state of Maryland.

the dinner which was held at Mrs. K's Toll House in Silver Spring.

The municipalities of Rockville, Hyattsville, Mt. Rainier, and Takoma Park were also honored.

A certificate from the safety department of the AAA was presented to the mayor of each of the five communities which had no traffic fatality in 1950.

## Greenbelt Gets Award For Traffic Safety

Greenbelt was one of five municipalities of the Washington metropolitan area of Maryland honored at a dinner Tuesday because of its traffic safety record for 1950.

Mayor Frank Lastner, Director of Public Safety George Panagoulis, and City Manager Charles McDonald represented Greenbelt at



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SEE GREENBELT from the air. Enjoy a new experience. Thrilling, exciting, never-to-be-forgotten airplane rides. \$2.50 and up. Qualified commercial pilot. Call Harry Zubkoff, 3571. Proceeds to JCC Building Fund.

HOUSEKEEPER wanted. Part time, 3-room apt. Mornings. Tenenbaum, 6654.

WANTED - standard size typewriter, need not be in good condition. Call Greenbelt 2444.

WANTED - to buy or rent - one auto rack for carrying luggage on top of car. Call Greenbelt 5628.

AUTO RACK for sale, for carrying luggage on top of car. Call 7821.

FOR SALE - venetian blind for large window in old Greenbelt living room. 57 x 72 - like new. 5-D Ridge Road. Gr. 4232.

CLEARANCE SALE: Summer dresses at less than wholesale price; some samples. Sizes 9 to 15. Call 5096.

HELP WANTED - Applications being accepted for supermarket employees, all departments. Apply GCS office above drug store, Mrs. Taylor. GR. 2231.

### RIDES 'N' RIDERS

RIDE WANTED to NPA Bldg., 5th and G St., N.W. Hours 8:30 to 5. Call 7411.

RIDE WANTED - vicinity 20th & L, N.W., 8:30 to 5. Call 3482.

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Greenbelt 3131

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GREENBELT THEATER

July 17 - 18

Matinees at 2 P.M.

## Library Book Race Finishes First Heat

### Fox Tales

By Sam Fox

**Little League Scores:** Greenbelt Co-op team defeated the American Legion 1 to 0 on a forfeit of infraction of the rules. Greenbelt Bowlers defeated Izaak Walton team 15 to 4. There were 4 home runs in the game by Gary Brown, Jack Gloss and two by Tom Canning. Games will be played on Monday and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and double-headers on Saturdays starting at 10 a.m. Come out and watch your boys play the "big league" style.

**Softball Schedule:** The third round is now half over and the finals will be played the last week of July. The following schedule for the next week: Saturday, Nelson vs Mt. Rainier and Annadale vs UMW; Tuesday, Annadale vs ERCO and UMW vs Arcade-Pontiac; Thursday, UMW vs Thrifty and Nelson Stude vs ERCO.

**Basketball Court:** The basketball court will be ready this weekend and the intra-mural league will start next week. If you have a team please call Recreation Dept. and we will put you in the league; we have three teams and would like two more.

**Playground Equipment:** The playground equipment will be here in the near future. When it arrives we will have it up in the areas that need it most. Please do not call office to find out when it will be in; you will know.

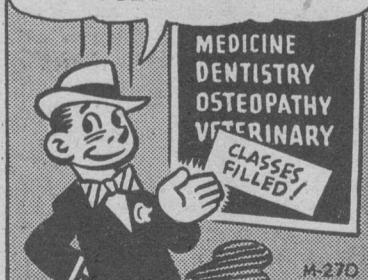
Send your small children to the baby playgrounds around your area . . .

**Water Pageant:** The water pageant will be put on August 19 on a Sunday afternoon. Be sure to reserve that day; the show will be entirely different than ever before. It is going to tell a story.

**Track Meet:** The Prince Georges County Track Meet will be held on July 25 at Byrd Stadium. All interested in participating, report to Donnie Wolfe and he will get you lined up for your event.

### Vic Vet says

IF YOU'VE TAKEN GI BILL PRELIMINARY TRAINING IN ANY OF THESE FIELDS, AND APPLIED BUT COULDN'T GET INTO RECOGNIZED SCHOOLS BY THE JULY 25 DEADLINE, DON'T WORRY... YOU'LL BE ALLOWED TO TRAIN WHENEVER A SCHOOL HAS ROOM FOR YOU



For full information contact your nearest VETERANS ADMINISTRATION office

July 12, 1951

GREENBELT COOPERATOR

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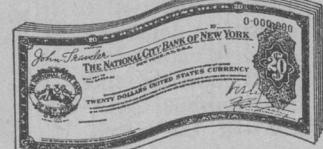
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## Health For All

## POLIOMYELITIS

With the exception of occasional heat waves, these summer months, bringing with them vacations and outdoor sports, are the most pleasant of the year to many people.

But for many mothers July, August, and September are "polio months"—the time when poliomyelitis, or "infantile paralysis," is most likely to go on the rampage. Unless there is a polio epidemic in the vicinity, however, parents are needlessly terrified of the disease just because it is summer.

Polio is feared because people associate death and permanent crippling with it. But it is not invariably fatal or crippling. Of those who get the disease, 40 to 60 percent fully recover without paralysis; another 20 to 30 percent recover with only mild paralysis, and 15 to 25 percent are left handicapped.

We do not know how polio spreads, when it is likely to attack, or just how to prevent it. But we know that polio is a disease of the spinal cord and the central nervous system, caused by a tiny virus which attacks the nerve cells. Research is going on, however, in the hope of gaining more specific knowledge about the disease.

Like many other illnesses, if polio should strike, a person has his best chance of avoiding permanent injury when the disease is found and treated in time. Parents should be on the alert for any symptoms in a child which may mean polio: listlessness, headache, upset stomach, fever, or pains or stiffness in the muscles. If any of these symptoms appear, it is best to play safe and call a doctor immediately.

The best defense against polio is prevention, and the doctor can give parents the best advice on protecting children. However, there are some general precautionary measures which should be observed.

1. Keep children away from crowds since it is believed the virus is spread from person to person.

2. Watch that children do not become over-tired or chilled, because either can lower their resistance and allow the polio virus to get a foothold.

3. Avoid the dangers of polluted waters and don't let children swim in water which has not been declared safe by health authorities.

4. Keep the children extra clean. See that they wash their hands frequently, especially before eating. Keep food as well as garbage covered and safe from flies.

5. Postpone any surgery at this time on the child's nose, mouth, or throat, unless the doctor says it is urgent.

Additional information on poliomyelitis can also be secured from the local chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, or from the organization's national office, 120 Broadway, New York City, N. Y.

This column is sponsored, in the interest of better health, by: Maryland Tuberculosis Assn., 900 St. Paul St., Baltimore, Maryland.

List Speakers at  
Co-op Institute

Cambridge, Mass. - Speakers at the 22nd annual Co-op Institute sponsored by the Cooperative Institute Association, August 5-11 at Wellesley College will include Herbert Evans, vice-president and director of personnel, Farm Bureau Insurance Companies (Ohio); Wallace J. Campbell, Washington director of the Cooperative League; Yrjo Kallinen, educational director of the Central Union of Cooperatives in Finland, on tour in the U. S.; Harry Laidler, executive secretary of the League for Industrial Democracy; Hugh Bogardus of National Cooperatives; Cecil Crews, field director, Consumers Cooperative Association; and Roy McCorkel of CARE.

The institute will include courses in membership participation and group development; public speaking and conduct of meetings; practical problems in co-op management; fundamentals of cooperatives; co-ops and better foods; and labor and co-ops. Details can be obtained from the Association at 167 Albany St., Cambridge 39, Mass. (CNS).



"Here's the solution to your problems, folks!"

Cerebral Palsy Ass'n  
Sponsors Co-op Nursery

The Prince Georges County Cerebral Palsy Association is sponsoring a cooperative nursery school during July for all handicapped children in Prince Georges County between the ages of 3 and 10. An Occupational Therapist will be in charge, with parents assisting her.

This nursery school is being held in the Nursery School Room at the University of Maryland. The time is from 1:30 to 4 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Parents of handicapped children are urged to bring them to this educational class. Further information and transportation arrangements may be obtained by calling SH. 4306.

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